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re Application of:

Examiner: A. Vo

Group Art Unit: 2861

May 3, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0135646, which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of this U.S. patent document is not enclosed, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) as revised September, 2004 and pursuant to the waiver published at 1287 OG 163 (October, 2004).

U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0135646 was cited during prosecution of a Chinese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. The Chinese Office Action was dated March 17, 2006. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that the document cited in this Information Disclosure

Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

In addition, it is noted that this published U.S. Application corresponds to U.S. Patent 6,837,575, which was cited by the instant Examiner in her last Office Action dated January 20, 2006.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", is written over a horizontal line.

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